



News Release

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Fort McCoy Unit Called to Active Duty

Fort McCoy, Wis. - The 1st Battalion, 338th Regiment of Fort McCoy, Wis. mobilized over 70 of its U.S. Army Reserve soldiers at Fort McCoy on January 30 - February 2, 2003. The mobilization was ordered in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. During World War II, the battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation - the highest unit award that can be bestowed - for its battlefield service in Italy. Today, the 1st Battalion, 338th Regiment is a training support battalion that provides mobilization assistance to other Reserve Component units.

Mobilization assistance is the process of preparing U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard units for deployment. Unit assistors from the 1st Battalion, 338th Regiment will visit alerted Reserve Component units at their home stations to help them prepare for possible mobilization. If a mobilization order is received, subject matter experts from 1st Battalion, 338th Regiment will act as Observer/Controller-Trainers while the mobilizing unit trains on collective and individual tasks at its mobilization station. Collective tasks are tasks like "Conduct a Platoon Tactical Road March" that are performed by more than one soldier. Individual tasks are tasks such as "Decontaminate Yourself and Individual Equipment Using Chemical Decontaminating Kits" that are performed by individual soldiers. The focus of this training is on battlefield survivability.

The 1st Battalion, 338th Regiment is a subordinate battalion of 2nd Brigade, 85th Division (Training Support) of Fort McCoy.